Falmouth High School Weekly Communication December 5, 2025

- FHS Weekly Communication 12-5-2025
- **■** radução para o português

Clipper Scholars and Families: These three weeks between Thanksgiving and the holiday break some of the very best in the whole school year. Winter sports are heating up. In the Fall we had 280 scholars participate just in athletics. That's 40% of our student body. I'm seeing that and more in the winter and I am also seeing our scholars in performing arts, visual arts, academic teams and an increasing number of clubs. Mock trial is preparing for their competitions, the math team is thriving and just this last week scholars started a Dungeons and Dragons club holding their first meeting in the auditorium after school. We know that scholars engaged in activities beyond the classroom correlate with better grades and graduation outcomes. These next three weeks scholars have the opportunity to engage as participants or spectators. This busy time comes with the responsibility to stay focused and prioritize. The lessons and learning in classes the next three weeks are the foundation for the end of semester projects and finals you will have in January. Attendance and engagement are essential. I look forward to seeing everyone at the town festivities this weekend where our scholars will participate and in the activities at school in the weeks ahead. Let's go Clippers!

Tuesday, December 9 - is an early release day. <u>FHS EARLY RELEASE DAY SCHEDULE</u> **Say Something:** Falmouth High, Lawrence School and Morse Pond all participate in the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System.

What is the purpose of the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System? The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System is a platform and safe space for students and concerned adults to provide information about individuals threatening or displaying at-risk behaviors for potential violence or self-harm.

Click on the links for <u>FAQ's</u> as well as the <u>Brochure</u> with instructions on how to use the system.

Student Dismissals: In order to ensure safety and allow staff to work efficiently, we are once again requiring parents/guardians who do not send in a note with their student or email prior to 8:30 am in the morning to enter the building to sign-out their student in-person. We thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Updates to Graduation Requirements: As you know, voters in Massachusetts passed a ballot last year that eliminated a passing MCAS score as a requirement for high school graduation. With that change, school districts have been tasked with creating their own measure for competency determination – the mastery of skills, competencies, and knowledge that were formerly assessed via MCAS. Falmouth School Committee recently adopted a new policy for this, which is now included in our graduation requirements. You can find this updated policy in this link.

Seal of Biliteracy: We are pleased to inform you of Falmouth High School's participation in the **Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy** for the 2025-2026 school year. The Seal of Biliteracy honors cultures and languages in our community.

The Seal of Biliteracy is earned by any student who meets the criteria by demonstrating proficiency in English and at least one other language. This distinguished award is noted on a student's high school transcript and diploma and recognized at graduation.

Students interested in earning the Seal of Biliteracy will complete a language proficiency test in March 2026. Students, if you are interested in participating in earning this award, please complete the survey below. Proficiency in English will be demonstrated by the Grade 10 ELA MCAS or ACCESS assessment.

If you are interested in testing in the language of your current World Language class, you will complete the interest survey at school.

If you are a student who wants to test in a home language, please complete this survey by December 19, 2025: <u>Seal of Biliteracy Home Languages</u>

For questions, please reach out to Molly Drane, World Language Department Head, mdrane@falmouth.k12.ma.us.

HARVEST OF THE MONTH: Our Harvest of the Month for December is carrots -

December 10: Our cafeteria tasting showcasing the return of the <u>five-spice banana carrot</u> <u>cake</u> with cream cheese frosting. allergens: wheat, egg, dairy, soy also contains:cinnamon. Free of peanuts, tree nuts.

December 18: Hot Lunch - a fun scratch cooked meal from our foodservice team featuring homemade chicken cutlet (thigh) sandwich with lettuce and tomato, honey roasted farm carrots, and chilled fruit. allergens: wheat, egg, dairy, soy.

Here is our **recipe for the teriyaki kale chips** from November.

Our Food Pantry is open at FHS! VIPS has partnered with Cape Kid Meals and our own Down to Earth Club to <u>launch a food pantry in the Clipper Closet</u> at FHS - students are able to access the pantry when the Clipper Closet is open (Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays during both lunch waves) - or may ask a staff member to accompany them at another time if necessary.

December Lunch Menu, December Alternative Lunch Menu

From Athletics/Activities/Arts & Clubs

■ 12/8/25: A Week at a GlanceThis link will give you a window into what is happening around our FHS campus for both athletics and activities.

Falmouth High School is proud to announce that Rory Morse has been selected as the inaugural Cape and Islands League coach of the year. One coach of a male sport and one coach of a female sport have been selected with Rory getting selected for his role as our Boys Lacrosse Coach. We are so proud of Rory and all his hard work with the students and athletes of Falmouth.

* FHS Boys Varsity Basketball Team to play at TD Garden in Boston: FHS will take on Westford Academy on Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 1:00pm on the famous parquet floor. Tickets are only \$30 and Falmouth fans will enjoy a unique close up experience in an NBA environment! Students in grades 3 - 8 will have the opportunity to take the court and shoot during halftime. This is a great family event and your ticket provides you access for all the games during the tournament. Click HERE for tickets and information.

FHS Theatre Company's Legally Blonde: Any student interested in auditioning for or working on crew for Legally Blonde should save the following dates: Monday, December 15th (Crew Interviews); Wednesday, December 17th (Singing Auditions); Friday, December 19th (Dance

Auditions). All information needed for the audition/interview process is in the Schoology Group (Access Code: 3VJM-T3TW-SCGFQ). Reach out to Ms. Guida with any questions!

ART TWO STUDENTS SHOW: FALMOUTH IN PRINT at Cahoon Museum December 3 - 21. Reception December 6.

PULSERA PROJECT The Spanish National Honor Society is participating in the Pulsera Project fundraiser from December 8th- December 22nd. During both lunch periods, students will be selling colorful individually handcrafted pulseras (bracelets) for \$5 each as well as one of a kind bolsitas (bags) for \$15 each. We accept cash, venmo, and apple pay. 100% of the proceeds will be invested in a wide range of social impact programs in Nicaragua & Guatemala. The Pulsera Project is a fair trade nonprofit organization that provides sustainable, well-paying work opportunities for artisans in Nicaragua and Guatemala, most of whom make colorful hand-woven bracelets, or "pulseras" in Spanish. Please see Mrs Stanton for more details (room 2051 or email kstanton@falmouth.k12.ma.us or visit the tables at lunch this December and buy a beautiful one of a kind bracelet or bag!) [www.pulseraproject.org]

FHS GLAM GIRLS CLUB will be running their annual giving tree from Dec 3 all the way to the 15th! Please feel free to grab a tag off the pink tree in the main entrance and get the piece of equipment to help an athlete in need this holiday season. Once you get the item written on the tag please drop off your gift in the bin under the tree. If you have any questions visit www.glamgirl.life to learn more about our mission or get in touch with a GLAM girl!

2025-26 YEARBOOK ON SALE NOW: Get ready to capture every unforgettable FHS moment! Yearbooks are just \$100. Prices will rise in 2026, Place your order through Jostens HERE Personalize an Ad for your student in the yearbook HERE Ads are due by January 31, 2026 NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY: Will be selling crafts at the Woods Hole Renaissance Fair on Saturday, December 6th to raise money for their upcoming NYC trip.

FHS CLIPPER STORE ONLINE: Please visit our online store where you can purchase all your Clipper Gear! Orders may take up to 3 weeks to deliver. Visit the <u>Falmouth High School Online Store</u>.

From Guidance

Senior awards for various honors and achievements were presented on November 24th. Here is the list of students and awards:

Awards celebration Class 2026 Press Release.docx

Cape Cod Community College Application Sessions for interested Seniors at Clipper time. An admission rep will help students to complete and submit an application.

Dec. 11 for Seniors who have Counselors Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Ruthven and Mrs. Solbo.

Dec. 12 for Seniors who have Mr. Lawson and Ms. Paine.

Foreign Student Exchange program - The Rotary Club of Falmouth is sponsoring a student exchange program for the summer of 2026. Any grade 9, 10, or 11 student who would be interested in traveling and living in a foreign country next summer should email Mr. Kazarian for more information. akazarian@falmouth.k12.ma.us.

Attention Juniors - The Calvin Coolidge Scholarship is available to high school juniors. This is a full-ride presidential scholarship that covers tuition, room, board and expenses for four years of undergraduate study at any accredited college or university in the US. The deadline is Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Go to https://coolidgescholars.org/ for application.

Boston College Women in Science and Technology (WST) Program offers a free STEM-focused program to girls in grades 9-12. It is a four Saturday program of research, lectures, and field trips starting in January at Boston College. It will explore fields ranging across STEM disciplines. See flyer for link to application. Application is due by December 15, 2025.

WSTStudentFlyer2026.pdf WSTStudentFlyer2026SPANISH.pdf

Horizon Academic Essay Prize began to enable the world's most ambitious high school students to do their best work. The objective of the Horizon Academic Essay Prize is to push young students to critically engage with the world around them. The competition is open and free for all current high schoolers. All essay entries are judged by our Academic Advisory Board, a panel of distinguished professors and scholars leading global universities. For more info go to: https://horizoninspires.com/essay-prize/

Horatio Alger Scholarship opens December 1st for Juniors and Seniors - Seeking students who display integrity and perseverance, and plan to pursue a bachelor's degree. Students must have financial need. Both juniors and seniors can apply. Juniors deadline is March 1st and seniors deadline is February 15th. Go to https://horatioalger.org/scholarships/ for information. Scholarship Workshops for Seniors! Who wants free money??

Any senior planning to attend a 2 or 4 year college, technical/vocational school or even if you plan to go into the military or need help with expenses to start up your own business or certificate program there are scholarships waiting for you. Scholarship workshops have been scheduled during Clipper Time where you can learn where to look and how to apply for scholarships. Ask your mentor Monday teacher or your Guidance Counselor to schedule you for one of the workshops (you only need to attend one). Most applications will be due starting after the winter break and go until May/June. If you want to get a jump start on applications, sign up for an early session. Dates are as follows: December 5,16,18 and January 8, 9,13,14,15, 21, 22.

Scholarship List for Seniors W UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS Class 2026.docx Hurricane Relief Drive for Jamaica, December 1st - 12th, drop off at North Falmouth Elementary

Community Announcements:

Message from Falmouth Service Center: Our new **FSC Community Closet** is open to our food pantry clients and has clothing for the family, household items, shoes, bedding, etc. all at no cost.

We are currently signing up families for our Turkey Basket program. We have already enrolled 538 Barnstable County households and have room for about 70 more in the program. We are providing an additional 320 baskets for our military families on JBCC.

Falmouth Public Schools Integrated Preschool Program enrollment is open. <u>See flyer for details</u>. <u>Translated flyer.</u>

<u>Lucini is hiring bus drivers!</u> If interested, call Leigh @ 774-255-9101. <u>Translated flyer.</u> **Toys for Cape Cod kids ages 1 through 12** at the Boys & Girls Club December 16 - 18, <u>click here for more information</u>. <u>Translated flyer.</u>

Don't stop believin',